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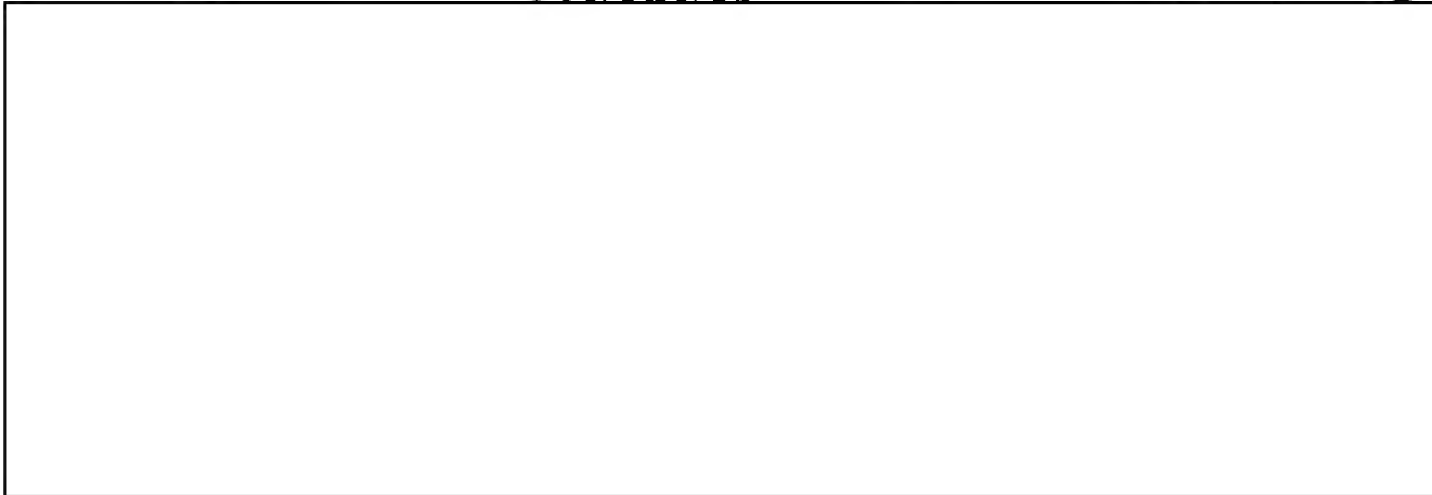
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CONTENTS



- ok* 4. **INDONESIAN COMMUNISTS EXPLOIT SUKARNO CONCEPT FOR ANTI-WESTERN CAMPAIGN** [redacted]

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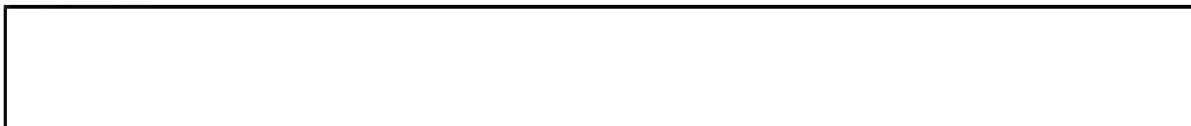
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- not* 5. **NATO OPPOSITION TO BRITISH TROOP CUTS** (page 7). [redacted]

- ok* 6. **POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET TROOP MOVEMENT INTO CZECHO-SLOVAKIA RUMORED** [redacted]

25X1A

25X6



- ok* 8. **SARAGAT SOCIALISTS POSTPONE DISCUSSION OF MERGER WITH NENNI GROUP** [redacted]

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25X6



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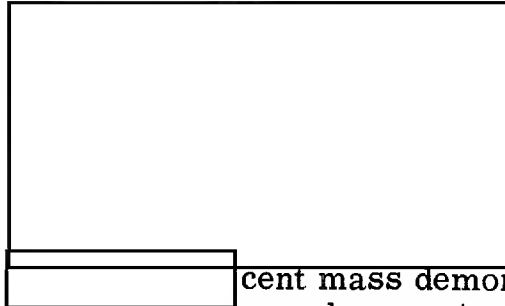
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4. INDONESIAN COMMUNISTS EXPLOIT SUKARNO CONCEPT FOR ANTI-WESTERN CAMPAIGN

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The Indonesian Communist Party has enthusiastically acclaimed President Sukarno's "nation-saving concept" and has launched a vigorous pro-Sukarno and anti-Western campaign. At a recent mass demonstration in Djakarta, during which US-owned property was damaged, a resolution was adopted calling on all Indonesians to support the president's proposals and denouncing as traitors those who would not do so. Sukarno has welcomed this Communist-organized demonstration as evidence of popular support for his plans and has stated that theirs was the "voice of the people, which is the voice of God."

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Sukarno appears determined to move quickly in carrying out the essential elements of his concept which involves the establishment of an "all-representative" and all-powerful appointed "advisory council" and a new cabinet, both with Communist participation. In this connection, he has invited political parties in the present cabinet to express their views on his proposals on 28 February.



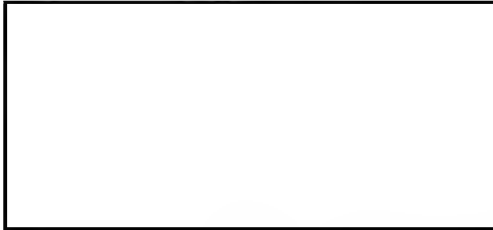
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5. NATO OPPOSITION TO BRITISH TROOP CUTS

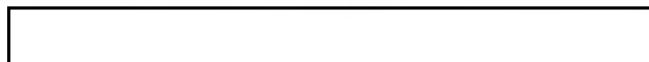


Sharp criticisms offered during the North Atlantic Council discussion on 22 February of proposed British force reductions in Germany may increase when the Western European Union (WEU) ministerial council considers the problem on 26 February.

Britain proposes to cut its ground forces in Germany from about 80,000 to 50,000 and tactical air force planes there from 446 to 216 during the year ending in March 1958. SACEUR expressed the hope that the reductions could be modified and phased out through 1959 to take account of the German build-up.

Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Greece and Norway all expressed deep concern over the immediate and long-term implications for NATO of the British plan. They warned of an inevitable chain reaction which would nullify the ministerial meeting's reaffirmation last December that a strong allied defense posture is a continuing policy.

This strong continental reaction was presumably discussed at the special week-end meeting of the British cabinet. Any modification of the British position would be intended to reduce the chances that a WEU majority might formally oppose the reductions.



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6. POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET TROOP MOVEMENT INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA RUMORED

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Rumors are circulating in Prague that Soviet troops may be moved into Czechoslovakia to strengthen the Warsaw pact in line with the 29 January Czech-Soviet declaration, according to the American army attaché in Prague. Western diplomats speculate that the government is trying to sound out popular opinion and condition the people to the possible presence of Soviet troops. The source believes the deployment of high-ranking regime officials throughout the country to explain the joint declaration to the people supports this speculation and denotes "unusual" and "significant" concern for public opinion.

American officials point out, however, that these rumors could have been planted by the regime to sound out Western reactions to such a move.

Comment

Stationing of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia would complete the military encirclement of Poland and put additional pressure on the Warsaw government. In making such a move Soviet leaders would probably claim that the Warsaw pact countries had been forced to take countermeasures for their own security by United States plans to station special troops armed with atomic weapons in West Germany.

The introduction of Soviet troops into the country would tend to stimulate anti-Soviet feelings in Czechoslovakia, hitherto one of the most loyal Satellites.

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8. SARAGAT SOCIALISTS POSTPONE DISCUSSION OF MERGER WITH NENNI GROUP

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The Italian Democratic Socialist Party directorate on 23 February rejected a proposal to hold an immediate national party congress to consider a merger with the Nenni Socialist Party (PSI). The directorate issued a resolution stating that "only the future concrete political acts of the PSI will provide a clarification" of the extent to which the Nenni Socialists have broken with Communist influence. The resolution added, however, that the Democratic Socialists regard the recent PSI congress as "a step forward on the road toward unification," and the directorate took no action to block the cooperation which is already taking place between the two parties at the local level.

Prior to the directorate's meeting, the American embassy reported that Democratic Socialist chief Saragat, who originally split the Socialist Party to escape Communist domination, was under strong pressure from elements in his party and the Socialist International favoring reunification. In a conversation with embassy officials on 21 February, Saragat complained about the hostile attitude displayed toward him by British Laborites and their support for Nenni and early Socialist reunification. He interprets this attitude as stemming from a British desire to "monopolize" US friendship and to act as the intermediary between the US and the rest of Europe.

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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